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GEOGRAPHICAL LITERATURE AND MAPS

(INCLUDING ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY)

BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTICES

(The size of books is given in inches to the nearest half inch)

NORTH AMERICA

Nature and Science on the Pacific Coast. A guide-book for scientific travelers in the west. Edited under the auspices of the Pacific Coast Committee of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. xiii and 302 pp. Maps, ills., index. Paul Elder & Co., San Francisco, 1915. 7½ x 5.

The contributors of papers on the earth studies in our Pacific Coast region are: Alexander McAdie: Weather Conditions; Ruliff S. Holway: Physiographic Geography; C. F. Tolman, Jr.: Geology of the West Coast Region; J. C. Branner: Earthquakes; H. Foster Bain: Mines and Mining; Ralph Arnold: Petroleum Resources and Industries; George F. McEwen: Oceanic Circulation and Temperature; LeRoy Abrams: The Deserts and Desert Flora; E. J. Wickson: Agricultural Development; Joseph N. LeConte: Mountaineering.

History, Fauna, Flora, Ethnology, Astronomical Observations, Museums, Irrigation, Chemical Resources, Scenic Excursions, and other topics are treated by equally authoritative writers. The book should be a boon to all intelligent readers generally as well as to "scientific travelers in the West." Readability characterizes the entire content; and all the half-tone plates, and the insert and folded maps and plans are very helpful. There are folded plans of Portland, Seattle, Puget Sound, San Francisco, west-central California, Los Angeles, San Diego and Salt Lake City, with larger geological maps of California and the life zones of that state.

The French in the Heart of America. By John Finley. x and 431 pp. Index. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1915. \$2.50. 8½ x 6.

Records lectures given by the author at the Sorbonne and in several provincial cities of France, as exchange professor on the Hyde Foundation. The aim is to revive for the French the traditions of Gallic life in America.

That the historical sketches follow in some degree a geographical plan is plain from the titles of many of the chapters, of which we find such examples as, "From Labrador to the Lakes," "In the Trails of the Coureurs de Bois," "Western Cities that have sprung from French Ports," and a similar treatment of origins as related to the portage paths in Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana.

The author writes as a lover of the land of his birth, the prairie country of Illinois, and as portraying the "Valley of Democracy" against the romantic background of its finding and its early history. The pen moves under the inspiration of Parkman, breathed in college days, and full debt is registered in the epilogue, which is a tribute to the great historian. The style is free and popular, uniting gossip sketches with fragmentary but interesting geographical descriptions. It is a good vacation book, serious but not exacting, and looking at it with a school teacher's inquiry, it offers supplementary furnishing for geography and history. This is nowhere better shown than in the chapter "The River Colbert" (Mississippi), as one is led from LaSalle and Marquette to Mark Twain, Hamlin Garland and the National Waterways Commission.

The volume is not systematic history nor scientific geography, but only what it confesses itself to be; and one who finds in it many things of common knowledge should remember that the book was written and spoken primarily in France and for the French people.

A. P. BRIGHAM.